AMENDED CLAIMS

CLAIMS:

1. A demountable and portable building comprising a base, a plurality of modular units which are arranged for connection to said base, each unit being fitted out with functional elements to enable that unit to perform a predetermined function in the operation of the building without requiring connection to facilities external of the building, each unit and its associated functional elements being operative to be connected to, or removed from, said base as a single unit said building being transportable with said units connected to said base, from a first site at which said units are assembled in connection with said base to a second site at which said building is to be operational.

2. A demountable building according to claim 1, one or more of said units comprising a subframe for mounting on and fixing to said base, and said functional elements being assembled on said subframe.

3. A demountable building according to claim 1, one or more of said units having the form of a compartment comprising a subframe for mounting on and fixing to said base, and a pair of parallel and substantially vertically extending end walls disposed at opposite ends of said subframe and fixed thereto, and a roof member extending between and connected to upper ends of each of said pair of end walls.

4. A demountable building according to claim 3, further comprising a substantially vertically extending side wall which extends from said subframe in fixed connection therewith, between and in connection with edge regions of said pair of end walls and/or edge regions of said roof member, substantially perpendicular to said end walls.

5. A demountable building according to claim 3, further comprising a pair of parallel and substantially vertically extending side walls which extend from said subframe in fixed connection therewith between and in connection with edge

regions of said pair of end walls and/or edge regions of said roof member substantially perpendicular to said end walls.

6. A demountable building according to claim 3, said end walls and, if provided, the or each said side wall being connected to said subframe through a base section thereof by a connector which extends through an opening formed in said subframe and said base section.

7. A demountable building according to claim 3, said end walls and, if provided, the or each said side wall being formed to define a hollow interior cavity, said interior cavity being filled with an expansion foam.

8. A demountable building according to claim 4, the or each said side wall being connected to said end walls along said edge regions thereof by an elongate connecting member which extends lengthwise between said edge regions of said pair of end walls and adjacent edge regions of the or each said side wall.

9. A demountable building according to claim 8, said connectors comprising front and rear walls which are spaced apart and parallel and side walls extending between said front and rear walls, and top and bottom walls which close open ends of said connectors so that said connector defines an interior space, fastening means for fastening said connectors to said end walls and said the or each said side wall extending through one of said front and rear walls.

10. A demountable building according to claim 9, said side walls of said connectors being mutually converging, so that adjacent said side walls of adjacent connectors can rest flat against one another between adjacent compartments that have side walls in facing and/or abutting relationship.

11. A demountable building according to claim 9, said side walls of a said connector being mutually converging, and adjacent said edge regions of adjacent said side walls being mutually inclined complementary thereto such that said side walls of a said connector lays substantially flush against said

inclined edge regions, and fastening means extending through said edge regions and through said side walls of said connector to connect said side walls of said units to said connector.

12. A demountable building according to claim 9, said side walls of a said connector being mutually converging, and adjacent side edge regions of an end wall and a side wall being inclined, such that one of said front or rear wall of said connector lays substantially flush against said adjacent side edge regions and fastening means extending through said side edge regions and through said front or rear wall of said connector to connect said end wall and said side wall to said connector.

13. A demountable building according to claim 3, wherein adjacent end walls of adjacent units are connected along adjacent edge regions thereof by an elongate connecting member which extends lengthwise between said edge regions of said adjacent end walls, said connecting member comprising front and rear walls which are spaced apart and parallel and side walls extending between said front and rear walls, and top and bottom walls which close open ends of said connectors so that said connector defines an interior space, said side walls of said connector being mutually converging, and said adjacent edge regions being mutually inclined complementary thereto so that said side walls of said connector lay substantially flush against said mutually inclined edge regions, and fastening means extending through said adjacent edge regions and through said side walls of said connector to connect said end walls to said connector.

14. A demountable building according to claim 9, said connectors being connected to said subframe by fastening means extending through said subframe and said bottom wall.

15. A demountable building according to claim 9, said connectors being connected to said roof members by fastening means extending through said roof member and said top wall.

16. A demountable building according to claim 3, said roof member being generally square or rectangular and having a pair of end sections and a pair of side sections extending perpendicular to said end sections, adjacent roof members in use being connected separately at end sections thereof to end walls of an associated unit and being connected together by connecting means which connect across adjacent side sections.

17. A demountable building according to claim 16, said adjacent side edges abutting each other, and the abutting faces being sealed.

18. A demountable building according to claim 1, said base including skids for dragging said building over a surface.

19. A demountable building according to claim 1, said base including ducting for service connection to said compartments.

20. A demountable building according to claim 19, said ducting being positioned centrally of said base between opposite sides thereof and extending between opposite ends thereof, said ducting including service point connections for cooperating with complementary service point connections of said units for facilitating provision of service to said units.

21. A demountable building according to claim 20, said service point connections providing for electrical and water supply, and waste discharge.

22. A demountable building according to claim 20, said service point connections of said ducting and said units being respectively positioned so that said service point connections align for cooperation regardless of the type of unit connected to said base.

23. A demountable building according to claim 20, said service point connections being equidistantly spaced along said ducting and said complementary service point connections of said units being positioned

uniformly in each unit so that said service point connections align for cooperation regardless of the type of unit connected to said base.

24. A wall or roof member for use in a demountable building according to claim 1.

25. A modular structure comprising a base, wall sections, roof sections and connectors for connecting adjacent wall sections and adjacent roof sections, the roof and wall sections being selected generally from a single predetermined size of respective wall and roof section for construction of said modular structure, said connectors extending lengthwise of said wall sections and comprising opposite side connection portions facilitating connection between said connectors on either side thereof to adjacent wall sections and connection portions for connection respectively to said roof sections and said base said connectors comprising front and rear walls which are spaced apart and parallel and side walls extending between said front and rear walls, and top and bottom walls which close open ends of said connectors so that said connector defines an interior space, said side walls of said connectors being mutually converging, and adjacent edge regions of adjacent, generally parallel said wall sections being mutually inclined complementary thereto such that said side walls of a said connector lay substantially flush against said inclined edge regions, and fastening means extend through said edge regions and through said side walls of said connector to connect said wall sections to said connector.

26. A modular structure comprising a base, wall sections, roof sections and connectors for connecting adjacent wall sections and adjacent roof sections, the roof and wall sections being selected generally from a single predetermined size of respective wall and roof section for construction of said modular structure, said connectors extending lengthwise of said wall sections and comprising opposite side connection portions facilitating connection between said connectors on either side thereof to adjacent wall sections and connection portions for connection respectively to said roof sections and said base said connectors comprising front and rear walls which are spaced apart and parallel and side walls extending between said front and rear walls, and top and bottom

walls which close open ends of said connectors so that said connector defines an interior space, said side walls of said connectors being mutually converging, and adjacent side edge regions of adjacent wall sections disposed perpendicular to each other being inclined, such that one of said front or rear wall of said connector lays substantially flush against said adjacent side edge regions and fastening means extending through said side edge regions and through said front or rear wall of said connector to connect said wall sections to said connector.